

Submitter: Adrienne Baerg
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB2895

Hello,

I am writing to encourage you to support House Bill 2895. As a mother of a child with an IFSP and a special educator, I see from all sides that special education is terribly under funded in our state. While I realize that lifting the spending cap on special education does not generate funding it would allow the state to allocate funds if they are available (please also do away with the kicker!). As a special educator, we are being told to cap the number of students that we evaluate for services because our district cannot afford to meet the needs of all the students we have and that are coming in. This is directly in conflict with our child find obligations. More importantly, it will leave students without strong advocates without necessary supports and delay support which limits our chance for high effective early interventions. These will be our students struggling with housing stability, in the foster care system, with parents who are not native English speakers, and who come from historically underserved communities. The long term impacts will weigh on individuals and society.

Thank you for the work you do to support our state.

Sincerely,
Adrienne Baerg